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Note by the Secretary-General

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1. Antonio Restrepo Barco Foundation

(Special; 2004)

PART I. Introduction

i. The Aims and Purposes of the Organization and its Main Course of Action

The main objective of the Antonio Restrepo Barco Foundation (FRB) is to foster educational, cultural and technical development amongst children and young people with very limited resources. To accomplish this objective, the Foundation's main course of action is based on intervention in communities through projects in the areas of health, family, social participation, and income improvement. The Foundation's social action contributes to strengthening Colombia's democratic and representative institutional framework and the freedom that its Constitution guarantees. It is with this aim in view that the Foundation promotes the private sector's involvement in social affairs.

ii. Significant Impacts and Changes -Expanded Areas of Activities (Scope of Work)

While the purposes and objectives sought by the Foundation remain intact (as does the nature of its activities), the FRB has expanded its scope of action in Colombia by including eight new regions in which to carry out its activities. It is at present active in 20 of the 32 Colombian Departments, while in 2004 it was in 12. Moreover, FRB has been working with new partners and allies, governmental and non-governmental, national and international. Another area of expansion of its activities is the Foundation's inclusion of work with the ex-combatant population, a new target for its projects. The impact of these changes is reflected in the consolidation of the organization's activities, which shows that the communities, other organizations, and the State have placed their trust in the expertise, tradition and reliability of the FRB and also support its work to promote social development in Colombia.

PART II. Contribution of the Organization to the Work of the United Nations

i. Participation in the Work of the Economic and Social Council and its Subsidiary Bodies and/or Major Conferences and other United Nations Meetings

a. 57th Annual Department of Public Information/Non Governmental Organization (NGO) Conference. Millennium Development Goals (MDG): Civil Society Takes Action, 8 – 10 September 2004, in United Nations Headquarters, New York, FRB attended the round table on the Rights of the Child, Education, and Global Governance. FRB's presence and participation was important in providing guidance on the necessary course of action for civil society to become involved in the MDG Campaign.

b. Commemorative High-Level Plenary Meeting devoted to the follow up to the outcome of the Special Session on Children on 11-12 December 2007, in United Nations Headquarters, New York, The FRB participated as one of the twenty NGOs invited to take part in the thematic roundtables,

specifically the one on *Providing Quality Education and Protection from Abuse, Exploitation and Violence*. The Social Area Director participated in the debate and also attended several NGO side events. During his participation, he reported to the audience the dramatic situation suffered by thousands of Colombian boys and girls who are forced to be part of the illegal armed groups in Colombia.

c. Sub-regional seminar on the implementation of final comments by the Committee on the Rights of the Child on 28-30 November 2005, in Buenos Aires, Argentina. FRB participated in the different roundtables on the rights of the child situation in several countries. The presence of FRB's Social Area Director was important taking into account FRB's lobby actions during 2005 for the issue of a new Children and Adolescents Code in Colombia, which was one of the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child for this country.

ii. Cooperation with United Nations Bodies and/or Specialized Agencies in the Field and/or at Headquarters

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR): 19-20 November 2007, in Bogota, Colombia, FRB participated in the Annual Workshop to follow up the Implementation of the OHCHR Recommendations on Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law in Colombia, organized by this Office. FRB representatives participated in several roundtables organized by the OHCHR to discuss the progress and performance of its recommendations on Human Rights. As members of the NGO sector of Colombian society, the FRB's representatives put forward arguments, statistics, and opinions on the achievements and failures of the Colombian administration in the implementation of civil, political economic, social and cultural rights, as well as the implementation of a National Action Plan on Human Rights.

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF): The ongoing projects: (a) Project in collaboration with UNICEF: *"Supervisory System for Contribution Contracts with the Colombian Family Welfare Institute,"* since 2004; (b) Project in collaboration with UNICEF to "Strengthen and Qualify Child Development Centers in Bogota," since 2005; (c) Project in collaboration with UNICEF for "Investigation of Anti Personal Mines in Middle Magdalena" - 2006-2007.

United Nations Development Program (UNDP): The ongoing projects: (a) Project in collaboration with UNDP to "Promote the Rights of the Child and Young People in the Maria's Mounts Region: For the Prevention of Illegal Recruiting of Minors by Illegal Armed Groups," since 2005; (b) Financial assistance received from UNDP for progress in the project "Citizens' Round Table on the Influence of the Public Policy of Prevention of Illegal Recruitment of Children and Young People by Illegal Armed Groups," since 2007.

International Organization for Migration (IOM) Ongoing projects: (a) Project in collaboration with IOM to "Promote the Rights of the Child and Young People in the Maria's Mounts region: For the prevention of Illegal Recruiting of Minors by Illegal Armed Groups," since 2005; (b) Project in collaboration with IOM to develop the project for "Integral support for the economic and social reinsertion of the demobilized population in Sincelejo and Corozal" since 2007; (c) Project in

collaboration with IOM and the News Agency on childhood to train reporters to support processes of raising public awareness regarding the prevention of recruitment of children and adolescents by the illegal armed groups, since 2007.

International Labor Organization (ILO) – International Program for the Elimination of Child Labor (IPEC): Since 2005 ongoing project in collaboration with ILO- IPEC to "Strengthen Local Policy for the Integral Prevention of Child Exploitation in Commercial Sexual Activities, Domestic Work and Recruitment by Illegal Armed Groups,".

Global Compact: FRB is a signatory of the Global Compact in Colombia, participated in its creation in this country, and participated in the respective promotion committee. It also assumed responsibility for promoting its principles on how social responsibility articulates with the nature of the Foundation (since August 2004).

iii. Specific Activities to Advance the Achievement of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDG)

To orientate public policies for the achievement of MDGs, Colombia has fixed goals which are in line with its own reality and expectations. They are set out in the National Council on Economic and Social Policy (CONPES), 91 of 2005: "*Colombia's Goals and Strategies for the Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals – 2015*[1]." To this end, the FRB has contributed to fulfilling the Millennium objectives in Colombia through activities and projects to achieve the following national goals:

Goal 1 - Eradication of extreme poverty and Hunger: Target 1: Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one dollar a day. Actions: Through its income and job creation projects, the FRB has benefited an average of 35,000 people for the purposes of encouraging initiatives with an emphasis on productivity, local and regional organizational strengthening and the promotion of personal and collective development processes aimed at improving low income population groups' quality of life.

Goal 2 - Achieve Universal Primary Education: Actions: Follow-up of public education policies to provide feedback and to improve State actions seeking to achieve this Goal. For the purpose, programs such as "Education, Everybody's Commitment" and free education have been promoted, for example by holding a forum on the subject with the Colombian Ministry of Education (Forum: "The right to free Education in Colombia", 10 August 2007. Tequendama Hotel, Bogota, Colombia; Follow-up activities: continuous.

Goal 3 - Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women: Actions: During the reporting period, through several organizational strengthening and training projects exclusively in benefit of close to 200 rural women, FRB has assumed the commitment to promote gender equality and women's autonomy, thereby guaranteeing them the training necessary for them to develop their own life

[1] United Nations Development Programe, "MDGs and the goals for Colombia". http://odm.pnud.org.co/metas.html.

projects and implement business plans to enable them to overcome their vulnerable, dependent situation.

Goal 5 - Improve Sexual and Reproductive Health: Target 4: To reduce, between 1990 to 2015, growth of the percentage of adolescents who are already mothers or pregnant and to keep the figure below 5%; Target 5: To increase, from 1990 to 2015, prevalence of the use of modern contraception methods in the sexually active population to 75% and among the 15 to 19 year old population to 65%.

Goal 6 - Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Dengue: Target 6: To reduce HIV/AIDS mortality recorded by the National Administrative Department of Statistics - DANE during the five year period from 2010 to 2015 by 20% in comparison with the mortality rate reported in the five years from 2005 to 2010. Actions: Between 2004 and 2007, FRB has contributed to training over 10,000 young people and adolescents in sexual and reproductive health and personal adolescent development to achieve more equitable, gratifying sexual health, protected from unplanned pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections (including HIV) through the promotion of sexual and reproductive rights, health, reflection on the ideas of youth, ties and the fabric of society, thereby also contributing to a reduction in mortality from HIV in the young population.

The FRB has not participated in the work of the Economic and Social Council as fully as might be expected. In spite of the Foundation's participation in several events and collaborating actively with the United Nations system, participation in the Economic and Social Council conferences has been less frequent as the majority of the Foundation's resources are used for the implementation of development of projects to promote human rights among the most needy and vulnerable people in Colombia. FRB's limited resources for journeys to other countries, to finance lodging and other expenses have made it difficult for FRB officials to attend international meetings more than once a year.

2. Family Action Foundation

(Special; 2004)

PART I. Introduction

The target of the Foundation is to provide support to the association and to enlarge its fields of activity, becoming a center of excellence in the framework of the family research.

The main foundational aims could be specified as follows:

a. Strengthen the conviction of the crucial role played by the family in social and personal welfare.

b. To promote through encouraging basic and applied research, the knowledge of social and economic factors which influence family behaviors and decisions, and affect their quality of life and consequently the society.

c. To elaborate detailed and solid studies in order to support accurate information for family decision-makers, social agents, family related organizations and the media at the national and international level.

d. To analyze and evaluate the impact of family policies in all their dimensions education, social protection, etc and to offer new alternatives.

e. To stimulate the academic and scientific debate about family issues and the ways to place the family at the hard core of decisions.

PART II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The activities developed by the Foundation have contributed to the following Internationally Agreed Development Goals including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs):

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, (Target 2: Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people)
Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education
Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women
Goal 6: Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS

The main research interests in the Foundation are related with all the problems that may affect the family as an institution in the Spanish context. These include:

a) **Poverty** measurement, determination of the causes and potential solutions (Goal 1). One of the repeated causes is absence of minimum levels of education (Goal 2) or conditions as being immigrant, or unhealthy (Goal 6).

b) **Conciliation** of family and work, (showing that this is mainly a problem for women) and wage inequality (Goal 3).

All these research matters are inspired also by the empirical work (social action) developed by the NGO. Among other actions, the NGO counts on a Training Program "Conciliation of family and work. Helping to educate in family", "Educate in family: practical orientation for educating" (Goals 2 and 3), or "The new challenge" a program addressed to adolescents trying to avoid the use/abuse of harmful consumption (drugs, alcohol) and their consequences (lack of education, HIV, and poverty among others) (Goals 1 and 6).

The main instrument used by the Foundation is to widely spreading information, and the activities are focused in three different Units:

1. **Research Unit:** This Unit integrates all the activities of which the subject matter is to provide support, to promote and develop research-projects in the areas considered of major social impact. These projects are worked out by researchers from different backgrounds such as Economy,

Sociology, Law, Pedagogy, Education, etc from Spanish and foreign Universities (from Chile, Dominican Republic and Mexico).

2. **Education & Training Unit:** The aim of this Unit is to provide public awareness of the outcome of the researches through lectures, courses and seminars, issuing publications in order to enlarge the knowledge of the people who work for the family. This training has a multidisciplinary focus and is addressed to different groups: school parents, immigrant groups, young people and adolescents. This Unit is divided into two different Areas:

a. **Area of University Training:** The recipients are University teachers, researchers, students and people from different backgrounds interested in family matters: sociologists, educators, economists, lawyers, business people, human resources managers etc. The objective is mainly to offer theoretical instruction, providing also support materials in the classrooms in order to help to put in practice such instruction.

b. **Area of Family Orientation and Training:** Lectures, seminars, workshops and courses are held in order to guide professional workers and members of institutions directly in contact with families, secondary school teachers and technical teachers in charge of family programs and fathers and mothers interested in improving their educational skills.

3. **Services Unit:** The aim of this Unit is to cover a double objective: to provide all the information that might be useful to advance knowledge on family issues and to elaborate studies, projects, evaluations and research for private and public institutions on demand. The type of work carried out in this Unit is, among others, the following: advising public entities on implementing family policies, design of family plans, results evaluation of the actual working policies related to family, women, conciliation, resolution of conflicts, etc.

Developed actions and results achieved 2004-2007

1. Junior Award on Family Research.

Actions: (a) During the reporting period there have been four announcements of the award (periodicity: yearly, 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007); (b) Published four books (Awarded) and 8 PDF Working Papers disseminated on the Web.

Results: We have had the participation of 86 young people studying subjects related to family issues that have submitted their work to the Award. The candidates come from 14 different Spanish Universities and 3 foreign ones (Mexico, Belgium and Argentina). The areas of knowledge were diverse (Psychology, Business Administration, Economics, Law, Politics, Medicine, etc.).

2. Annual Report of Acción Familiar Foundation

Actions: (a) We have published five separate studies in years 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007. We are launching the Acción Familiar Book Collection; (b) Teachers from nine universities, and also from

private and public organizations, foreign and Spanish, have participated in those Works (Max Planck Demography Institute, Institute of Economic Studies, European Central Bank, Spanish Institute for Tax Studies).

Results: A wide distribution in libraries and book shops has been achieved. The good image of the Foundation has been reinforced in the circles we are addressing.

3. Observatory of the family.

Actions: (a) Issue of a monthly Informative Bulletin (virtual); (b) Publication of 13 working papers in PDF *(Documentos Acción Familiar)* Publication on-line of *Statistical Year book of the Family 2005 and 2006;* (c) Launching of the Family Observatories in Murcia (21 February 2007), Spain (1 January 2004) and Vizcaya (1 June 2006).

Results: We have 4.100 subscribers of the Bulletins from 6 Latin American countries (Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Peru and Dominican Republic) which is the best proof of the usefulness of the information offered. The collection *Working Papers of Acción Familiar* has allowed us to have at the Foundation's disposal a really fast and low cost instrument which permits to spread out our proposals. So far 13 documents have been published and several works from different Spanish and foreign Universities have started to arrive with the aim of being published. We consider this as a signal of the existence of an important interest in their contents.

4. REDFAM. Inter-University of Family Studies.

The REDFAM (from the Spanish RED which means "net" and FAM which refers to "family") is an interdisciplinary meeting point for those who are involved in work and research on family matters. The net tries to encourage the debate on and the search for solutions for family related problems.

Actions: (a) Spreading the information of the Net in order to serve as a meeting point for all those working or researching on family matters; (b) To create expert groups for research on family related matters.

Results: We have 72 professionals already registered from different Universities and International and Spanish institutions from diverse areas of knowledge.

5. Family Policies Chair (Complutense University)

Actions: (a) Agreement settled with the Complutense University, Madrid (19 June 2006), financed by the Foundation Gondra Barandiarán. Creation of a research group (11 researchers at present); (b) There have been 75 students in the term 2005-2006; 120 in the term 2006-2007. Production of 2 manuals as support material; (c) Course of 50 hours in the Complutense Latino- American School. University of Puebla, Mexico (25-29 September 2006); Course of 25 hours in Dominican Republic (Catholic University of Santo Domingo) (4-8 June 2007; 23-27 July 2007; 17-21 September 2007); Participation on an International Seminar in Dominican Republic, (31 May-1 June 2007).

Results: The two manuals designed to teach the subject, both published in *Acción Familiar Collection*, will serve to other Universities and Institutes to teach related subjects, having so a reference text inexistent up to now. This will help to enhance our good image and will spread out our arguments and works. The creation of the chair has favored that the Complutense University officially recognizes a Research Group in Family Policies (the first and only one in this area) formed by 11 teachers from various Universities.

6. Extraordinary Work.

Actions: (a) Services rendered: Evaluation of the Family Plan of the Ministry of Work and Social Affairs; Elaboration of the Project of Family Plan of the Region of Murcia (January 2006); Elaboration of the Guide for Families (January 2006); Elaboration of the Project of the Family Plan for the Community of Madrid (June 2006); Evaluation of the Family and the Childhood and Adolescence Plan for Madrid City Council (January 2006); Launching of the Observatory of Family for the Region of Murcia (21 February 2007) and Vizcaya (1 June 2006); (b) Agreements with: Complutense University of, Deusto etc; Rafael del Pino Foundation, Gondra Barandiarán Foundation, Community of Madrid, Ministry of Work etc.; (c) Member of the "Intergrupo de Familia de la Unión Europea"; (d) Introduction to the European Union Parliament of a report including different proposals and actions in family matters (May 2005).

Results: (a) Obtaining financial funds for the Foundation; (b) Getting influence on family matter policies.

3. Help Handicapped International

(Special; 2004)

PART 1 - Introduction:

Help Handicapped International's (HHI) primary objective is to rehabilitate the poor physically challenged persons in conflict areas of the world through fitting of the Jaipur foot prosthetic- and artificial limb designed and developed in India and most favoured by landmine victims and other amputees in Asia and Africa because it is light in weight, easy to fabricate and allows for squatting, cycling and working in the fields-all chores essential in the developing countries. HHI's focus on these areas is primarily because the number of amputees runs into tens of thousands, and facilities for prosthetics are limited.

HHI's methodology in the first phase is to organize Mobility Camps in selected areas where the number of amputees is large. During such camps locally recruited semi-skilled personnel are provided basic training in the prosthetic technology so that they can provide certain rudimentary repair and adjustment facilities even after the completion of the camp. In the subsequent phase permanent centers to provide rehabilitation facilities for the handicapped are planned for and established. Beneficiaries are mobilized through the media-print, radio and television as per facilities available in each area to create an awareness of the free facilities that is being offered during the camp. Each and

every beneficiary is first met by a counselor who not only eases the trauma that any amputee goes through at the loss of a limb, but also prepares him or her to accept a prosthetic limb. This psychological approach to a physical problem is essential for any amputee before he or she accepts, and is comfortable with, an artificial limb. The artificial limbs are fabricated on the basis of accurate and extensive bodily measurements taken by senior prosthetic engineers and technicians. The post fitting phase is equally significant as the amputees are guided on how to use and maintain the prosthetic as well as undergo a battery of physiotherapy exercises, gait training and muscle development techniques to achieve a comfortable fitting prosthetic.

Activities during the period 2004 to 2007:

1. Kabul (Afghanistan): The war of liberation in Afghanistan no doubt brought liberty and freedom from oppression but also left in its wake thousands of men, women and children who had lost one or even both limbs due to landmine explosions. Their numbers were large and facilities for rehabilitation were limited. HHI stepped into this scenario and organized two camps in Kabul where over 1000 limbs were fitted, some to beneficiaries in the interior villages who had waited for years for such a facility.

2. Khartoum (Sudan): HHI in association with a leading Indian corporate involved in oil exploration has been running a center at Khartoum. It is managed by a Senior Technician sent by HHI from India and all raw materials are also being sent from India. The center has rehabilitated over 6000 beneficiaries since its inception. Using Khartoum as base, Jaipur foot fitting facilities have also been organized in South Sudan where the need is there but hardly any facilities are available.

3. Nairobi (Kenya); HHI has been providing materials as well as technical expertise to the Jaipur foot center at Nairobi. A proposal is now underway to provide managerial and technical up gradation for this center so that it can cater to a larger number of patients as well as minimize the unit prosthetic cost.

4. HHI has been providing materials from India for the small Jaipur foot centers located in Ghana, Zambia, Malawi, Nigeria and Uganda.

5. In India, HHI, through an associate trust (Ratna Nidhi Charitable Trust), is organizing Mobility Camps all over the country for fitting of Jaipur foot and Callipers as well as the distribution of Tricycles, Wheelchairs and Crutches. Over 60,000 beneficiaries have been rehabilitated during the 3 year period and it is an on going process. These camps have been organized in Mumbai , Shirdi, Nashik (Maharashtra), Dharamsala, Hamirpur, Shimla (Himachal Pradesh), Jammu, Katra (Jammu and Kashmir state), Leh and Kargil (Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir), Guntur (Andhra Pradesh), Sankeshwar, Sayla, Vijapur, Valsad, Bhuj (Gujarat state) , Salem, Trichy, Madurai, Cuddalore (Tamil Nadu), Rajgir (Bihar) thus covering practically the whole country.

6. During 2004-2007, again through an associate trust (Ratna Nidhi Charitable Trust) HHI has established two permanent centers in Dharamsala (in the Himayalas) and Guntur (in South India) in addition to its on-going facility in Mumbai.

HHI's association with the activities of Economic and Social Council:

HHI has always taken a keen interest in the activities of Economic and Social Council and has provided inputs for its various publications.

The Managing Trustee Mr. Mahendra G. Mehta has attended meetings in New York and also had one to one dialogues with representatives of various countries on matters of mutual interest.

HHI contributed a "success story" which was included in the NGOs statements submitted to the 2006 High Level Segment of the Economic and Social Council.

4. International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity

(General; 2007)

PART 1 - INTRODUCTION

International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity (CIDSE) is an international network of 16 Catholic development agencies, working with organizations and partners in all continents on issues of advocacy and lobbying, development programmes, peace and conflict, development education, campaigning and fundraising. Since the last report (2000-2003), a new Strategic Framework sets out the focus and directions for CIDSE for the years 2005-2008, the statutes have been updated in 2006 to adapt to the new Belgian law on non profit-making associations and the network was reclassified from Special to the General consultative status of the Economic and Social Council in 2007. During 2004-2007, activities in relation to the United Nations have focused on the Millennium Development Goals, resources for development, global governance, food security and trade, and human rights. CIDSE has participated and facilitated the participation of southern partners in summits and conferences on these topics, published policy papers, organized side events and engaged in various lobby activities in close co-operation with other international organizations. A new area has been campaigning to support CIDSE lobby work.

PART IL – CONTRIBUTION OF THE ORGANIZATION TO THE WORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS

2.1 Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or major conferences and other United Nations meetings:

42nd Session of the Commission for Social Development (New York, 4-13 February 2004): written statement: "Call for a substantive and high-level Copenhagen+10 Review Process".

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) Civil Society Hearings in preparation of UNCTAD XI (Geneva, 23 February 2004): oral statement and delegation at UNCTAD XI Conference (Sao Paulo/Brazil, 13-18 June 2004).

Informal hearings of civil society on financing for development (New York, 22 March 2004): participation in Panel 1: coherence of the international financial system in support of development.

60th session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (Geneva, 15 March-23 April 2004): participation and paper "United Nations Norms on the Responsibilities of Transnational Corporations and Other Business Enterprises with Regard to Human Rights".

Economic and Social Council Special High Level Meetings with the Bretton Woods Institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (New York):

- 26 April 2004: Position "Coherence, coordination and cooperation in the context of the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus"; participation in the official roundtables on "Debt sustainability and debt relief" and on "the role of the multilateral institutions in reaching the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)".

- 18 April 2005: Statement: "Achieving the internationally agreed Development Goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration", participation in two official roundtables on "Policies and strategies": financial domestic resources and the Millennium Development Goals and co-organization of side event on "Innovative Sources of Financing Development".

- 16 April 2007: co-organization of panel discussion on "High level panel on United Nations system-wide coherence: implications for the United Nations and the other multilateral development institutions".

32nd Session of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Special forum on World Food Security (Rome, 30 October-4 November 2006), participation and publication of "Land is life – the Millennium Development Goals and southern Countries".

Participation in UNCTAD expert meeting on Foreign Direct Investment in Natural Resources (Geneva, 20-22 November 2006) and in ad hoc Expert Group meeting on "Biofuels: Trade and Development Implications of Present and Emerging Technologies" (Geneva, 19 June 2007).

Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO) Civil Society Development Forum 2007 (Geneva, 28-30 June 2007): co-organization of the workshops on "Financing for Development" and "aid effectiveness".

General Assembly High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development (New York on 23-24 October 2007): written statement "From Monterrey to Doha: the way forward", co-organization of side event on "Selected Issues on Financing for Development: South-North Capital Flows and the Search for Innovative Sources of Finance" (22 October 2007).

Other activities:

Support to the Financing for Development Office (FFDO) multi-stakeholder dialogue on "Sovereign debt and sustained development": meeting with the FFDO (New York, September 2004), NGO response to the Issues Paper "Strategic issues in managing sovereign debt for sustained development" (December 2004), participation in United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)-United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) seminar "Debt sustainability and the MDGs" (New York, 30 October 2006). Letter to the United Nations High Level Panel on "Challenges, Threats and Changes" (October 2004). Lobby actions regarding civil society participation in the 2005 World Summit (November 2004) and modalities of the Doha Financing for Development Review Conference (November 2007). Monitoring of official debates on United Nations reform within the "High Level Panel on United Nations System-wide Coherence in the areas of development, humanitarian assistance and the environment": contribution to United Nations-Non Governmental Liaison Service call for comments (July 2006), presentation at a conference organized by the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (Bern, September 2007). Support to the official Helsinki Process on effective global governance: participation in meetings held in Malaysia (May 2007) and the United Republic of Tanzania (November 2007).

Policy papers: "A comprehensive debt workout for poor countries with an international fair and transparent arbitration procedure" (2004); "International Finance Facility: right questions, insufficient response" (2004); Redistribution through innovative measures: a currency transactions tax (2004); "Working towards progressive global governance" (2004) "Long due reform? the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank and global economic governance 60 years later" (2005); "New resources for development" (2005); "A human development approach to debt sustainability" (2006) quoted in the Secretary-General Report on "Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development"; "A human development approach to preventing new cycles of debt" (2007).

2.2 Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters: Close collaboration with the Financing for Development Office/United Nations-DESA.

2.3 Initiatives undertaken by the organization in support of internationally agreed development goals, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Participation in the United Nations meeting with representatives of Civil Society on the High level Plenary Meeting in 2005: input (New York, 24 January 2005) and the informal Interactive Hearings of the General Assembly in preparation for the World Summit (New York, 23-24 June 2005): speaker for the cluster 4 on strengthening the United Nations, 2 partners selected as active participants in two other clusters. Comments on the Secretary-General's Report "In larger freedom towards development, security and human rights for all" (April 2005). 2005 World Summit (New York, 14-16 September): delegation, written statement "MDGs require a genuine partnership for their achievement".

Public awareness: Panel on MDGs at the World Social Forum (Mumbai, 18 January 2004); dissemination of paper "International Campaign on the Millennium Development Goals" at the 57th

Annual Conference of the United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI): "Millennium Development Goals: Civil Society Takes Action" (New York, 8-10 Sept. 2004), organization of side event on "the United Nations, the IMF and the MDGs" during the 58th Annual DPI Conference (New York, 9 September 2005). Advocacy and campaigning: CIDSE 2005 MDG campaign with a focus on MDG 8: launch event at the World Social Forum/Porto Alegre/Brazil (January), Southern Bishops' lobby tour, CIDSE United Nations Officer in New York for 6-months, member of the Global Call to Action Against Poverty, lobby activities based on the following papers: "Justice not Charity: Policy recommendations to Donors ahead of the G8 Summit", "More than a Numbers' Game? Ensuring that the Millennium Development Goals address Structural Injustice", Europe: A True Global Partner for Development? CIDSE Shadow Report on European Progress towards Millennium Development Goal 8", "CIDSE benchmarks for the World Summit 2005". Follow-up campaign "Make Aid Work". (2007).

5. World Human Dimension

(Special; 2000)

PART I. Introduction

The World Human Dimension (WHD) was established in June 1991 and registered as a non-profit foundation by the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation. In 1999 it was re-registered under the new Russian law on non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The aims and objectives of the organization, as well as the nature of its activity, remained basically the same. The purposes of the WHD as stated in its charter are as follows: consolidation of intellectual potential of the foundation's members in the implementation of programs and projects to promote national progress towards socially and economically developed society based on law. The activity of the WHD is concentrated in the Russian Federation.

Part II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Annual Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organization (DPI/NGO) conferences attended by the WHD representatives: **2004,** 57th Annual DPI/NGO Conference in New York, United States of America, 8-10 September, "Millennium Development Goals: Civil Society takes action"; **2005,** 58th Annual DPI/NGO Conference in New York, United States of America, 7-9 September, "Rebuilding Societies Emerging from conflict: A shared responsibility"; **2006,** 59th Annual DPI/NGO in New York, United States of America, 6-8 September, "Unfinished Business: Effective Partnerships for Human Security and sustainable development"; **2007,** 60th Annual DPI/NGO Conference in New York, United States of America, 5-7 September, "Climate Change: How it Impacts Us All". **Follow-up action:** The WHD held a round table under the theme: "Possible Negative impacts of the climate change", Moscow, Russian Federation, 17 November 2007. The round table was organized in cooperation with Non-Governmental Foundation for Global Environment Safety and Development (GESD).

i) Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, major conferences and other United Nations meetings

1. On 29-30 January 2004 the WHD took part in the "Aid and Trade" Conference in Geneva, Switzerland as a NGO for the third successive year. The conference "Aid and Trade" Europe was devoted to "Integrated Aid and Development Solutions. The role of the Private Sector". **Follow-up action:** The WHD sponsored the publication of materials on humanitarian activity of the United Nations and the role of international aid and trade exhibitions in the international relief programs. It was followed by briefings organized by the WHD in Moscow, Russian Federation on 15-16 October 2004 to provide guidance for the Russian business community on how to do business with the United Nations.

2. The WHD representative attended the 12th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development held in New York, United States of America on 14-30 April 2004.

3. The WHD representative attended the 49th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women held in New York, United States of America on 28 February-11 March 2005.

4. The WHD representative spoke on the United Nations radio program on the problems of children with special needs and provided a comparative analysis of the situation with needs of special groups in the Russian Federation, former Soviet republics and Europe, (New York, United States of America, September 28, 2005).

5. The WHD is particularly proud of successfully carrying out a project corresponding to the goals established by United Nations General Assembly Resolution № 48/96 "Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities" of December 1993: During the reporting period the organization sponsored a computer bank project of sign languages with internet access for better worldwide communication between deaf and hard-of-hearing people. The project has registered considerable international support.

ii) Cooperation with the United Nations and specialized agencies

1. In 2004 the WHD began promoting internship programs for Russian nationals in the United Nations and its specialized agencies.

2. The WHD project on Social Liability of Business in the Russian Federation and abroad, which had a sponsorship of UNESCO, was resumed in September 2007.

iii) Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The organization contributed to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the central part of the Russian Federation and Northern Caucasus. Major actions undertaken during the reporting period include the following:

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger - Actions:

- Food programs for low income groups. Number of people covered = 8100
- Medical assistance packs (sets of medicaments) for retired senior citizens = 6400

Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education - Actions:

- Classrooms fully equipped and renovated in Beslan, Russian Federation = 24
- School dropouts returned to school = 540

Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women - Action: The ratio of women to men employed by the Organization is approximately 4 to 1 = 32:8

Goal 4: Reduce child mortality - Actions: Placement of homeless children to adoptive families and orphanages = 320

Goal 5: Improve maternal health - Action: The female staff members of the organization carry special corporate medical insurance = 32

Goal 7: Ensure Environmental sustainability - Action: Drinking water monitoring systems established and maintained as a part of the environmental monitoring program = 6

Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development - Action: Organization maintains working relations with various national and international NGOs and private companies = 129

Part III. Activities in support of the United Nations agenda item: Dialog among Civilizations

The problem of dialogue among civilizations was discussed at the International Economic Forum "Russia - Asia - Pacific Region: towards strategic partnership and dialogue of civilizations" held in Moscow, Russian Federation on 9 October 2006. The WHD President was invited to be a guest speaker on the issue of the dialog among civilizations.

In May 2007, the WHD started a program (seminars, round tables and publications) on the dialog of civilizations. Different scholars and political figures from the East and West have been invited to contribute to the project including some former United Nations officials associated with the issue. The first stage of the project (a round table was held in Moscow on 15 October 2007) was devoted to the relationship between the East and West and particularly between the Russian Federation and the United States of America after 1991.

Part IV. Cooperation with National and International NGOs

The WHD is a member of a NGO group accredited by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation; it is also a member of a NGO section of the American Chamber of Commerce in the

Russian Federation. Until 2006 the WHD was a member of the NGO Council of the State Duma of the Russian Federation. As a member of the Council the WHD took part in the following conferences sponsored by Council: "Cooperation of the Baltic States and CIS countries in the filed of Science, Culture and Education", Saint-Petersburg, Russian Federation on 16 November 2005; International Conference "Dialogue of Government and Civil Society. Securing Social Rights", Moscow, Russian Federation, 15-16 September 2006.

On 15 February 2007 the WHD representatives took part in the NGO meeting held in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation to discuss ways of interaction of the NGO community in the Russian Federation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on international policy issues.

In 2004-2005 the WHD was a coordinator of the Humanitarian Assistance Program to the schoolchildren of Beslan, Russian Federation after the tragic events of September 2004. The program, which was conducted with the Lions Clubs International, was to become an example of cooperation of the international NGO community. In January 2006 the WHD president received a national public award as a program coordinator.